

Wartburg Trumpet

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Waldorf president gives address

Wartburg graduates 31 Sunday



CONGRATULATIONS!— President Robert Vogel extends well wishes to Tharin Schwinef is.

by Erik Piper and Jon Reuss

Wartburg graduated 31 students at its December Baccalaureate/Commencement ceremony yesterday morning in Neumann Auditorium.

Dr. William Hamm, president of Waldorf College, who gave the address, could identify with the graduates.

"I'm just a small-town Iowa boy, but I graduated from Wartburg," he said in his sermon.

In 1986, Wartburg awarded Hamm an honorary degree. Hamm is a member of many commissions and organizations in his field. He earned his M.A. in political science at the University of Iowa.

Noting all the advance planning that graduation entails, Hamm's sermon addressed the question, "Why all the fuss?"

"You will be replaced by next year's freshman class," he said. "It's more than affection, however.... We are moved by your excellence; you are the juice that gives us meaning."

There are some things people do simply because they have become a ritual, according to Hamm.

He recalled his last trip to Washington, D.C., when he spent time at the Lincoln Memorial, which for him had become a ritual every time he visited the city.

He challenged the graduates to be a blessing to their communities.

There are many who go to college "for the big bucks," according to Hamm, but he hoped that the graduates now have a sense of service growing out of a concern for the world inherited from God.

"We are not natural beings trapped in natural confines," he said, "but rather spiritual beings created in the image of God.... Life's pleasures have little to do with consumption."

"The college is the bow; you are the arrows," he told the graduates. "That is what the fuss is all about."

Hamm, a 1966 Wartburg graduate, was student body president and chairman of the Academic Life and Snow Weekend committees. He majored in history and was a member of the current events club and the Young Democrats.

Hamm became president of Waldorf College in 1986. Before his present job, he worked at Johnson Associates, an educational consulting firm and at California Lutheran College as vice president for university relations.

Bachelor of music education degree Todd Ulmer

Bachelor of arts degree

Weatherby Aird
Maria Anacabe
Carl Borchardt
Ernest Boury
Rich Boyer
Stephanie Cuvelier
Beverly Eide
Mohammad Faheem
David Gay
Kenneth Gorton
Karla Hakert
Becky Heilskov
Kurt Hempen
Shannon Holbrook
Randall Jessen

Jeff Kaune
Carolyn Kilanowski
Kurt Luhring
Brian Mayer
Mark Miller
Patti Mohling
Karen Nelson
Kari Nelson
Tracy Roudebush
Otto Rusli
Tharin Schwinef is
Donald Scroggin
Laurel Shipman Mirs
Rod VanderWerf
Mina Wesenberg

For special circumstances

Pass available for after-hours computing

by Paul Everding

What would you do if you caught mononucleosis and missed a week of classes, then returned to class to face an endless list of assignments plus a twenty-page research paper? Dr. Chris Schmidt may have the answer.

By obtaining a special pass, students may use the Whitehouse Computer Center after-hours, said Schmidt, head of academic computing. Passes are available only for special circumstances, and then, only for course work. Obtaining a pass must be worked out with the course instructor.

"I want the community to know it's

available," Schmidt said. "It's not an excuse for not planning. It's to be used with discretion."

Schmidt said the faculty works with Student Senate to set building hours convenient for students. But sometimes, students can't get to facilities before closing.

"This is especially true over the holidays and summer," Schmidt said.

As an aid to students, Schmidt started the pass plan about a year ago. By going to the instructor whom the work is for, students may request an after-hours pass to use the Computer Center. The instructor then fills out a pass for each

time requested. Students locate the security officer on duty when they wish to use the center and give them the pass. When using the Computer Center after-hours, students are not to let anyone else in the building and are restricted to the center, Schmidt said.

"I want it to be available, but I don't want it to be abused," Schmidt said.

Schmidt also said Security has been very cooperative with the program.

Since campus safety and prevention of equipment damage are major concerns, students' passes must be given to the officer on duty to be put on file.

Schmidt said there haven't been any major problems except for a little trouble last summer with students letting other people into the building.

"But all that was worked out," Schmidt said.

In other Computer Center news, Schmidt asked students to bear with the college as far as computer malfunctions are concerned.

Schmidt said constant use contributes to the malfunctions, and that the college is replacing computers as they wear out.

The college replaces over 30 computers each year.

Committee formed

Freshman retention rate concerns Student Life

by Rachel Hoffman

The declining student retention rate has created a need to look at problems and solutions at Wartburg. The Student Life and Retention Committee has taken on this task.

The committee is made up of faculty and students appointed by President Robert Vogel. In addition to retention, concerns for the committee include residential life and student activities.

Debbie Heida, dean of students and vice president for student life, heads the committee.

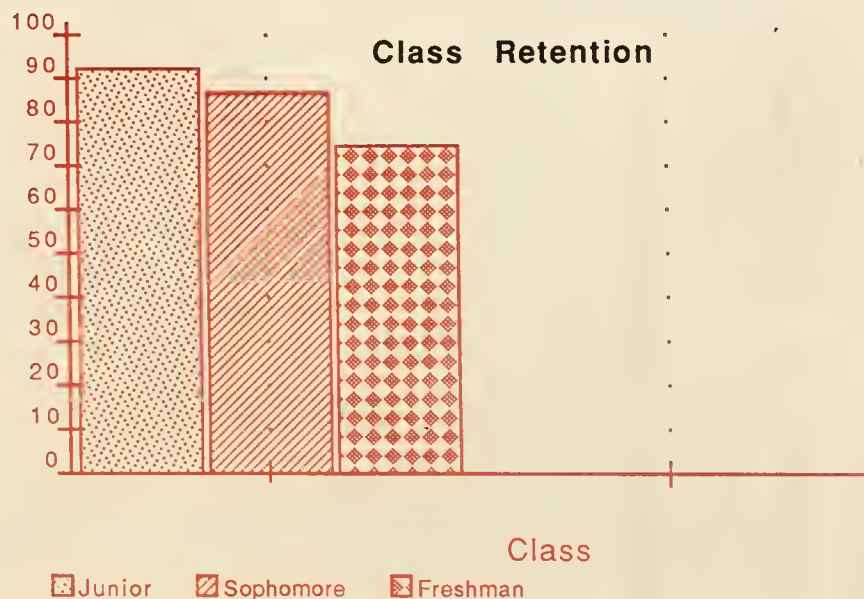
For the 1989-90 school, Wartburg retained only 82.7 percent of its students. This was lower than the previous year, when 83.8 percent of the students were retained.

Freshman retention is the lowest of any class. For 1989-90, 91.4 percent of the juniors and 86.2 percent of the sophomores remained at Wartburg. In

contrast, only 74.1 percent of the freshmen were retained.

One factor that could help the retention rate is to restructure the orientation process for freshmen. A planning committee has been created to do this. Todd Masman, director of student activities; Monica Severson, assistant professor of physical education and women's basketball coach; and Rachel Hoffman, sophomore, are the members of this committee.

The committee reviewed the current orientation process as well as the processes at other Lutheran and liberal arts schools. This made the committee aware of the options available. Some of those options include a day of orientation and registration in the summer, a four-day orientation before Fall Term and an extended orientation with a freshman seminar class for credit. These options are being pursued by the committee.



editorials

Fall Break

The faculty vote on Fall Term Break was encouraging.

More than 700 students signed a petition to keep the academic calendar the way it was last year, allowing for a two-day break. It became apparant, however, that a two -days break was not feasible even before the faculty had a chance to vote on the proposal. The faculty did pass the submitted proposal asking for a one-day break.

We'd like to add our thanks to all the faculty who listened to students on campus and sent them a message: they can make a difference in the decisions that affect them.

Silent vigil
a good start

Last week's silent protest for peace and candlelight vigil, in response to U.S. military presence in Saudi Arabia, was the first time in recent memory that students and faculty took a stand in support of an important cause.

"I haven't seen anything like since about 1971, near the end of Vietnam," observed Dr. Sam Michaelson, associate professor of English.

Indeed, the student organizers of the gathering could never have known that so many people would join them in calling for a peaceful resolution to our military's latest involvement in an overseas dispute.

The north side of the Student Union had overflowed with an estimated 200 demonstrators near the end of the sit-in. That so many were concerned enough about the situation to take time out from supper to show support was encouraging.

Also, 48 wooden crosses have been set up in central campus, one for each of the soldiers that have died in the Middle East since "Operation Desert Shield" began.

Perhaps it was a sign that students are finally waking up and taking an interest in the world around them.

Let's hope so anyway.

Apology

Last week's editorial cartoon was obviously drawn at the last minute. It was not the work of regular Trumpet cartoonist John Hintz.

Hintz's cartoons, along with those of Robin Sathoff, will be back on the Trumpet pages next year.

Wartburg
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Kurtz asks Santa for peace

"Ho-ho-ho! Come on up here little boy!"
"Hi Santa."
"Dave! You haven't sat on my lap for years!"
"Hey, don't get funny with me, Santa."
"Sorry. But you know what I mean. You don't look very happy."
"I'm depressed, Santa."
"But it's Christmastime! Everybody be happy! Tell Santa what you want for Christmas."
"World peace."
"Oh give me a break, Dave!"
"What?"

Kurtz
Korner

by Dave Kurtz



"You think my elves can just go and make world peace? You think I could get world peace down your chimney? C'mon, how 'bout a football instead?"

"Well, I'd really like world peace."

"World peace, huh?"

"Yeah, c'mon Santa."

"No wars, no killing, no crime, no rape, no lies, no starvation, no disease or lack of anything that's good?"

"Well..."

"Do you know what you're asking?"

"Well..."

"You think I can get that? Look at me! I'm a myth with a mortgage and Mrs. Claus wants a sports car or

else a divorce, maybe both! I'm going to have to do some overtime outside malls for the Salvation Army and pick some of that change out of those buckets for myself!"

"Santal"

"Hey, Dave, give me a break with your world peace ideas, okay? Humanity will never bring about world peace the way you think of it."

"Never?"

"Look how many years we've had and we keep screwing up. Only divine intervention can bring about world peace."

"So what should I do?"

"Just try your hardest and keep an eye out for others, okay? Try and remember that half the Santas you see in big cities are bums on the street the rest of the year."

"They are?"

"Geez, you really lead a sheltered life, don't you?"

"I just want world peace."

"Ninety-nine percent of us do, Dave, but if we don't think about it for others instead of just ourselves, we're still being greedy and it will never work."

"I think about others."

"I know you do. But there was once a baby born in a stable who said He was God. He told people to think about feeding the poor, sheltering and clothing people and above all, loving others. Not just thinking about it, but doing it. Then He was killed but He was raised. He lives and He still tells people to think of God and others first."

"That's a good feeling."

"It's more than a good feeling, Dave. It's the reality of Christmas. See, X-mas is just a holiday, but Christmas is a way of life. That means there's hope."

"Thanks, Santa. Mind if I quote you on that?"

"Sure."

"And by the way, are you still offering that football?"

"... Yeah, sure. Merry Christmas, Dave."

"Merry Christmas, Santa."

Hofer has warning for Santa

Dear Santa,

I know it's been a while since you've heard from me, but that's because I've been working so hard at being good that there wasn't always time to write. But now, at the beginning of Finals Week, it seemed like the perfect time to resume our correspondence. And I thought maybe I'd convey a few wishes to you (for myself and others), just in case there's anything that you can do.

The first and biggest thing that I really wish for is world peace. I know, I ask for that every year. And I know you've been working on it, but geez, this old world is getting about as hot as the middle of a turkey pot pie that's been in the microwave too long.

I know you've got a pharmacy at the North Pole, so I think we need a big supply of tranquilizers here, especially for two of my most nervous friends, Tiffonzo and Dr. Roy. We've got to chill out before we all blow a gasket.

I'm not going to ask for good grades this year because I figured out that since most profs don't believe in you, they usually don't listen to the things you tell them. Guess we're on our own on that one.

Matt, Tall One, has been a very good boy. I think he needs a couple of things, a bigger audience for his great radio show (Monday 7-9 p.m.) and elevator shoes.

And I happen to know of at least one little boy who thinks he needs a "Where's Waldo?" book for Christmas. We'll have to work on that one together.

Now for me. I think I need a puppy this year. I know I can't keep one here at school, but I want one anyway. It

would be nice to have a fuzzy little friend who never has homework or is grumpy, never wants me to read his (or her) papers, and will love me even if my room is a mess (which is all the time).

I'd also like some autumn leaves, since I miss them so much, to remind me that Wartburg comes in other colors besides white and slushy grey.

And one last thing, I'd like you to do me the biggest

Piece of
Mind

by Janice Hofer



favor and whisper in the ears of my friends and family on Christmas Eve and tell them just how much I love them.

But don't forget, don't go roaming around the dorms after midnight or you may be apprehended by the inter-vis police.

peace, love, happiness,
Janice

letter

Gulf crisis, 'hunks of flesh' not related

I would like to respond to Mr. Martin's latest column about pro-lifers. Martin summed up his views by saying, "Pro-lifers are quite outspoken when it comes to saving a hunk of flesh. But after the hunk of flesh grows arms and legs, they forget about it."

'...The suggestion that people who support the rights of the unborn care nothing for the soldiers in the Middle East...is absurd.'

Martin's portrayal of Pat Robertson as the spokesperson for the pro-life movement was quite a caricature. In defense of him, I doubt he nor anyone else

giggles and sends young men and women off to war.

I do not know Pat Robertson, and his politics do not necessarily match mine. Some of his views can certainly be criticized. But the suggestion that people who support the rights of the unborn care nothing for the soldiers in the Middle East or for "hunks of flesh that have grown arms and legs" anywhere is absurd. It's just as absurd as saying "Have an abortion so there will be no new generation of soldiers who can be killed."

The crisis in the Persian Gulf is a difficult and terrible situation, and having soldiers in that area does not mean that pro-lifers (or anyone else) care nothing about them. In fact, the two issues are quite separate.

I hope Mr. Martin gets off his kick of inflammatory writing and stops putting people in boxes of his own design. Columns of his have been almost continually poorly thought out and written not so much to make a point as to stir up controversy carelessly and unproductively.

David J. Kurtz
Junior

Accountability emphasized

President lists milestones of '90 Senate

Since I've been emphasizing accountability from day one, I thought it appropriate to demonstrate Student Senate's accountability to the student body by publishing a term-end report. I hope this will set precedent for future years.

At the beginning of the year, the executive committee recognized the importance of effective communication between senators and executives, as this has been a problem in past years. To deal with this, I had a short initial meeting with every senator, executive and class president. Thereafter, every senator and class president has had a regular weekly one-on-one meeting with an executive. This time is used by execs to make sure things are going all right for the senator and to respond to any concerns the senator might have.

The Senate office has been open more than ever this year. Three years ago, executives each kept one hour per week in the Senate office. This year, the office is open for five hours a day Monday through Thursday. This tripled the number of office hours and demonstrates to students the seriousness of this Senate's intent to remain accessible to the student body.

The executive committee has met with President Vogel and his cabinet a few times on a couple of issues. We furthered a discussion begun last year on possible Union remodeling and expanding. There is ongoing discussion between students, administration, and the college architect on this issue.

In meetings with a student focus group, an RHD, the executive committee and Senate, I assimilated a brainstormed list of campus security/safety/rape problems and potential solutions. After a meeting with the cabinet on this, Debbie Heida, dean of students, has initiated a student issues group devoted to dealing with the issues raised.

This term, we've allocated \$100 to the Student Health Awareness Committee, \$150 to Students for Peace and Justice, and \$400 to the Pom-Pon Squad. If your organization has a potential need for funds next term, be sure to apply.

The Intervisitation Policy Task Force (junior Mark Bradley, chair) has worked to find out what students want in an intervisitation policy, partly in response to a petition drive coordinated by sophomores Melisa Shirley and Brigitte Wood. The group has surveyed the student body and will formulate a policy proposal over break.

The Presidential Task Force For Environmental Concerns, junior Dana Atkins and senior Brad Thompson, co-chairs, has sent three members to a state-wide conference on solid waste and has two members regularly attending Waverly's Solid Waste Advisory Committee. The group has worked on initial stages of recycling in residence halls, collecting newspapers for recycling and writing a Trumpet article to

publicize recycling efforts. A goal for next term is meeting with members of Maintenance and Food Service to discuss environmentally sound methods.

The Administrative Ombudsperson, sophomore Todd Crow and the Student Relations Committee (senior Dan Wright, chair) have worked on several issues. Crow has ensured that faculty are being ticketed for parking in student parking lots and has established the Cultural Awareness Center as a place for use by non-traditional students, making available a refrigerator and eventually a microwave. Crow will continue work begun on getting a phone in D-Lot and in the Luther Hall computer room. The committee has worked on getting cable TV in student rooms and a survey has been developed for use next term. The committee also initiated discussion on the issue of next year's calendar and invited the student body to its meetings. Next semester Crow and Wright plan to concentrate efforts on alcohol-related issues, including the possibility of a dry floor. They have also been commissioned by Senate to look into the hall damage policy, Sunday night meals, student work pay evaluation, condom availability, free pregnancy testing, insurance concerns, parking problems, lighting, vandalism and snow and ice removal.

The Academic Ombudsperson, sophomore Andrew Howie and the Academic Policies Committee (junior Christine Harms, chair) have had their most significant accomplishment this term: getting a three-day fall-term break. The whole experience has shown to faculty and administration how concerned students are about the calendar and has helped ensure that student concerns will be taken into consideration in the future. Also, the committee carefully examined the system of student evaluation of professors, and concluded that it was satisfactory. The committee researched the registration procedures for transfer students, in response to complaints. Investigation found that the system was adequate but poorly publicized. The committee will work with Admissions to publicize this for incoming transfer students.

The college is currently in the process of revising the Academic Standing, Probation and Suspension Policy. Howie and Harms are working to ensure that student input is taken into consideration. Next term, Howie will provide student input to the Educational Policies Committee on the course credit system and the 1992-93 calendar. The committee will look into course-hour weighting, sanctioning processes, international student financial support, Budget and Building Committee representation, dead week, an honor code and class scheduling for next term.

The Human Relations Committee (senior Mike Crawford, chair) is working on an issues-related "Think Week" for next term and is following up on last year's

efforts to purchase a mascot costume as a class gift.

The Publicity Committee (junior Tim Guyer, chair) organized and publicized the fast for the Cannegeiter family. With the help of senior Eric Williams and Food Service, these efforts raised more than \$2200. The committee has made laminated comment sheets for every senator's door in order to keep communication lines open. Next term, the committee will post Persian Gulf crisis news clippings on the Senate office window, produce an informative bi-weekly Senate page and consider taking a survey of student concerns.

The Senate Review Committee (senior Brad Thompson, chair) is developing means of evaluating senators, executives and class presidents. They have also undertaken discussion regarding the need for international, minority and non-traditional student senators and will come forward with a proposal next term. Next term, the committee will prepare for a possible constitutional convention provided for by a recently passed constitutional amendment and look at ways to improve elections. One new thing done this year was having candidates respond to questions; their answers were posted at the polling place.

SAC/Senate Ombudsperson, junior Todd Houge initiated a subscription to "U" the national college newspaper. He took on the Dry Bar Task Force, but this was placed on hold until final Union addition plans are presented to the student body. Houge will continue to work closely with student activities and promote student involvement next term.

Senate has been steadily coming under more and more criticism over the past couple of years. I believe the reason for this is that we've been setting higher and higher standards and expectations. When these aren't met, attention is drawn to the problem. For example, during the 1987-88 school year, a Senate member was allowed three unexcused absences from Senate meetings, and there was no attendance requirement for committee meetings. Gradually the policy has changed. Now, a Senate member is allowed only one unexcused absence per term from senate meetings, committee meetings and one-on-ones; specific steps for dealing with these violations have also been devised. Last year, a Trumpet article drew attention to Senate's attendance problems. True, attendance wasn't up to standards, but it was far better than it had been previously. We hope that this trend of developing for higher standards, more student involvement and criticism and more interest in the workings of Senate continues.

Any questions, comments, or concerns can be directed to me anytime (-7413); otherwise, please direct specific questions regarding committee work to the appropriate chair or ombudsperson.

Alan D. Feirer, student body president

Knightbeat

Holidays are rough for internationals

by Nanae Kobayashi

Whenever I hang up the phone after talking to my mom, I cannot help feeling frustrated. I want to see her, and I know that she wants to see me, too. I envy other students who can go home for the holidays and see the family. I see my family once a year or less.

My mom does not want to talk about the holidays we have to spend separately. Instead, she asks me how I look, and I have to explain the details over the phone. "Yes, my hair is getting long now, Mom. It's, well, it's about three inches under my shoulder." Then she asks me, "What do you do with your bangs?" I say, "I put all bangs up." She says, "Well, I guess you look nice that way. Send me a picture." Oh, well, by the time I send her a picture, my hair will look different, probably.

I know that this is something that all the international students have to deal with—spending holidays without their own families. But it is so hard during Christmas and New Year time. Every American student looks so excited going home to celebrate Christmas and New Year with his or her family. Recently, I realized how much I miss celebrating the New Year with my family. I miss every single moment that I used to spend with my family. I miss every single moment that I used to spend with my family on New Year's Eve.

That horrible time of the year is coming soon again. But I will manage to go through somehow. Oh, I cannot forget to say this, "Merry Christmas and a happy New Year, Mom."

letters

Campus counselor promotes safer holiday drinking habits

Whether you are hosting a big party or just having a few friends over, good food and drinks can add to the fun. By trying these tips, you can create a relaxing, more enjoyable party atmosphere and help your guests "Know When to Say When."

- Always serve food with alcohol. Tasty snacks and appetizers not only complement the taste of beverages but will add to the enjoyment of your party. High protein foods, such as cheese and meats are best to help moderate the effects of alcohol.

- Don't force drinks on your guests. Resist the impulse to refill glasses the minute they become empty.

- Make non-alcoholic beverages available. Remember

to have plenty of soft drinks, coffee or other non-alcoholic beverages on hand for those who prefer them.

- Measure mixed drinks. Use a shot glass to help you avoid making drinks too strong.

- Close the bar at least one hour before the party ends. During the final hour of your party, switch to coffee or other non-alcoholic beverages. Serving a dessert or some other food is a delicious way to top off the evening.

- When the party is over make sure that people who have had too much to drink do not drive home.

Ginny Bass,
Drug and Alcohol Education coordinator

Junior says 'thanks' to faculty

On behalf of the Wartburg Student Senate I wish to thank the faculty for their votes to include a Fall Term Break into the 1991-92 calendar. This is much appreciated by us, the students.

I would also like to commend the student body for

their mobilization, enthusiasm and support. Without students showing their concern, this could never have been accomplished.

Tim L. Guyer
junior

Distinguished poet to enrich campus, Waverly

by Brenda Haines

Wartburg will be the first college nationwide to host a Lila Wallace-Reader's Digest Writing Fellow.

Poet Stephen Dunn will be on campus from Jan. 6 to Jan. 18, as part of the new program.

The Lila Wallace-Reader's Digest Writing Fellows Program was made possible by a grant from the Lila Wallace-Reader's Digest Fund. It will be operated by the Woodrow Wilson Foundation, which also coordinates the Woodrow Wilson Campus Fellow Program and the German Marshall Fund speakers.

The program replaces the Woodrow Wilson Writing Fellows Program.

Dunn served as Adjunct Professor of Poetry at Columbia University from 1983 to 1987 and was a Distinguished Poet in Residence at Wichita State University in 1989. He is currently professor of creative writing at Stockton State College.

Dunn's works have appeared in periodicals such as *The Nation*, *The New Republic* and *The New Yorker*. He has published eight books of poetry and his works have appeared in 23 anthologies.

He has received awards such as Hofstra University's 1990 Esterbrook Distinguished Alumnus Award and The American Scholar's 1989 Mary Elinor Smith Prize.

Dunn has given poetry readings at colleges and universities nationwide including Yale, John Hopkins, Cornell and Syracuse.

The Lila Wallace-Reader's Digest Fellows are not limited solely to the college campus as Woodrow Wilson Campus Fellows are. Therefore, Dunn will be available

for visits to elementary schools, secondary schools and other colleges and universities in addition to Wartburg class and student lectures.

Dunn may also give lectures to Waverly community groups. He will offer a creative writing workshop for students during his residence at Wartburg.

Dr. Gregory Scholtz, assistant professor of English has coordinated this effort. He cites the advantages of having a poet of considerable reputation on campus.

"There are not a great many opportunities for help, instruction or encouragement in the area of creative writing here at Wartburg," he said. "We have strong journalistic, expository and persuasive writing, but our creative writing is not as strong."

Wartburg has not offered a creative writing course since the 1988-89 academic year.

"An extended residency by an accomplished writer would fill an educational void," Scholtz said on the program's application.

The Lila Wallace-Reader's Digest Writing Fellows Program is designed to allow authors extended stays at their respective colleges. Dunn will spend two weeks at Wartburg in January. He will return for an additional two weeks in the fall of 1991.

"These people are especially valuable because they bring a piece of the outside world to places which are remote from the national cultural centers," said Scholtz.

Anyone interested in requesting Dunn to meet with a class or organization should contact Scholtz before Dec. 10.



Poet Stephen Dunn

Christmas decorations bring home to campus

by Corey Case

As Christmas gets closer, one of the things families do to get in the spirit is decorate their homes. Wartburg students are no exception. In the weeks between Thanksgiving and Christmas, some students decorate their rooms.

"It helps me get into the Christmas spirit," said Kent Hall, sophomore. "I just took some extra stuff from home."

Decorations can range from simple to those requiring some effort. One of the most common and simplest forms of Christmas decoration is lights. Students string them around windows, on the walls and down their furniture.

Other decorating done on campus can include wreaths. A few rooms even put up a tree, though the sizes are smaller than those found in houses. Hall's room decorations include a string of lights, an 18-inch tree, a wreath and a white stuffed bear that beeps out carols when its paw is squeezed.

"That beeping bear can drive people

crazy, so we hung him from the smoke alarm," said Hall.

Students think the short amount of time the decorations are up is worth the effort.

"It brings home closer in spirit, even if it can't be physically," said Debbie Dunklee, junior. Her home is in Texas and she hasn't been home since school started.

Dunklee got her decorations from her grandmother last year. She stored the lights and miniature tree at a friend's house over the summer and in her room until Thanksgiving Break. She will soon pack them away again.

Hall will take his decorations home at Christmas Break. He doesn't plan on taking them down until the last moment, though. He hopes the decorations will make Finals Week go faster. Whatever the reason, Christmas decorations are a part of student life in the campus residences.

Review

Symphony appeals to children as well as children at heart

by Jill Lafferty

The Wartburg Community Symphony Orchestra conjured up the childhood memories of every person attending the symphony's delightful Saturday concert, "Conjure Up a Christmas."

Although the performance was filled with traditional Christmas carols, excerpts from "Nutcracker Suite" and a classic by Charles Dickens, the show could hardly be described as a "traditional" symphony concert.

Directed by Janice E. Wade, assistant professor of music, the orchestra opened with a lively rendition of the contemporary favorite "Sleigh Ride" by Leroy Anderson.

An old-fashioned sing-along followed. The audience was led in Christmas favorites by The Waits, a vocal quartet made up of senior Todd Ulmer, juniors Julie Holtan and Todd Alpers and sophomore Diane Maulsby. Dressed in top hats, knickers, long dresses and overcoats, the group could have stepped straight out of a Dickens novel. During the sing-along, children in the audience got into the act, decorating the Christmas tree on stage.

From an easy chair, President Robert Vogel read "A Christmas Tree" by Dickens, a journey into childhood Christmas memories. Interspersed between the prose were excerpts from Tchaikovsky's "Nutcracker Suite" and traditional Christmas carols that followed Dickens' story.

DANCE Co'MOTION, a professional dance company in residency at Iowa State University, added amusing imagery to this section of the show and Julie Holtan performed a hand puppet version of "Little Red Riding Hood."

To top off the concert, Wade introduced the audience to her newest grandchild, Elizabeth, and proceeded to direct the orchestra in "We Wish You a Merry Christmas" with one hand while holding Elizabeth in the other.

Symphonies too often are labeled as boring, especially by children forced to sit through them. But any child—or child at heart—from little Elizabeth to the oldest audience member, had to have been entertained and amused at this splendid concert.

Candlelight service brings campus together



O HOLY NIGHT—Sophomores Lori Brockman and Karl Zosulis attend Sunday's candlelight service. Photo by Deb Barber.

by Brenda Thompson

The warm glow of flickering candlelight slowly spreads across Neumann Auditorium as strains of "O Holy Night" waiver in the air. Wartburg's Christmas Candlelight Service "may be the biggest campus worship service of the year," the Rev. Larry Trachte, campus pastor said.

The traditional service, older than Christmas at Wartburg, used to be sponsored by a pre-theology organization on campus, Trachte, a '66 graduate, said.

"When I returned as campus pastor 17 years ago, the candlelight service had fallen away," Trachte said. "I reinstated a candlelight worship with the reading of the Christmas story."

Two traditional parts of the service also began that year. A soloist sang "O Holy Night" during the candlelighting and foreign language students led "Silent Night" sung in German, French and Spanish after the candles were lit.

"In about 1977, we started using student soloists and other groups,"

Trachte said. "We knew the Wartburg Choir and Band were just exhausted after Christmas at Wartburg so we relied on the organ and other student ensembles."

Despite preparations for finals, student attendance is usually high.

"Christmas more than any other holiday touches the center of our spirituality," Trachte said. "A baby in a manger, warm candlelight, singing 'Silent Night' touches us emotionally. It builds a sense of close intimacy, of family, of belonging especially for students who too often feel detached."

This year's theme was peace, with lighted candles on the altar in remembrance of those who are serving in the Persian Gulf.

"Last year's service was a celebration; the theme was 'Dancing on the Wall.' We were all excited to be starting the 1990s; it was the most optimistic, up-beat service I've ever participated in. Maybe this year is a reminder that peace is not that simple."

SAC garners awards, looks to new term

by Derek Solhelm

Wartburg's Student Activities Committee (SAC) garnered three awards at the National Association for Campus Activities convention, Oct. 11-14, in Sioux Falls, S.D.

Wartburg received first place in Reverse Exhibit Hall. In this category, the committees provide information about their schools and campus activities. A record 22 schools were entered in this category.

Wartburg placed second for the Outstanding Delegation at the convention. This award is based on attendance at showcases, educational sessions, exhibit hall and co-op buying, as well as leadership, recognition and conference spirit.

Janet Lee, '90, last year's SAC president, won the Student Founders award. This award is given to individuals who have given their time and talents to the Upper Midwest Region.

"It was a super experience," said senior Jennifer Owen, SAC president. "Wartburg's Student Activities Committee is highly respected regionally and nationally. They did a great job representing Wartburg and are going to have a great second term."

SAC members attending were Owen, senior Michelle Steimel, junior Rochelle Karstens, sophomores Tina Elwood and Brian Bernhard, and SAC advisor Todd Masman.



OOPSI! "#*\$)@&"—Monday's blizzard blanketed the campus with 10 inches of snow which Maintenance cleared away effectively—after overcoming a few minor difficulties.

Local video outlets compared

Movie rental opportunities abound in Waverly

by Brenda Thompson and Brent Matthias

When the weather outside is frightful and the lounge seems so delightful, renting a movie may seem the thing to do. Here's how some local outlets stack up:

KWIK Trip

Address: 400 E Bremer Ave.
Number of titles: unavailable
Cost: \$1.99 for new releases, 99 cents for others.
VCR rental: \$5.99.
Hours: open 24 hours.
Also rent: Nintendo machine, \$5.99.

Movies America

Address: Village Square Mall on Highway 218.

Number of titles: over 5,000

Cost: \$2.50 for new releases and top hits, others \$2.

VCR rental: \$4 for first day, \$6 for two days.

Hours: 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Sunday through Thursday, 10 a.m. to midnight Friday and Saturday.

Also sell: tape cleaners, popcorn, candy and balloons.

Act II Videos West

Address: 922 W. Bremer Ave.
Number of titles: 2,500
Cost: \$2.75 for new releases, \$1.75 for all others. (Movies are considered new releases for 90 days.)
VCR rental: \$4 with tapes, \$6 without.
Special deals: Free box of popcorn with

each rental and a punch on a movie pass. Six punches earns an adult ticket at the Waverly Theater worth \$3.75.

Hours: noon to 8 p.m. Monday through Thursday, noon to 9 p.m. Friday, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Saturday, 1 p.m. to 7 p.m. Sunday.

Also Sell: used video tapes.

Fish Magnavox HEC

Address: 101 E Bremer Ave.
Number of titles: 1,600
Cost: For club members new releases are \$2, others \$1. For non-club members new releases are \$3, others \$2.50. (Wartburg students receive a free membership.)
VCR rental: \$4 with tapes, \$6 without.
Hours: 9 a.m. to 8 p.m., Monday through Saturday. Closed Sunday.

KWIK Trip

Address: 517 W Bremer Ave.
Number of titles: around 200 movies and 25 Nintendo games.
Cost: \$1.99 for new releases, 99 cents for others.
VCR rental: \$5.99.
Hours: open 24 hours.
Also rent: Nintendo machine, \$5.99.

HyVee Food Store

Address: Village Square Mall on Highway 218
Number of titles: over 1,200
Cost: \$1.99 for new releases, 99 cents for others
VCR rental: \$4.99.
Hours: 7 a.m. to 10 p.m.
Also sell: blank video tapes.

Ed class goes to Waterloo for unusual final exam

by Corey Case

Students taking the Foundations of Education class with Dr. Cheryl Budlong, assistant professor of education, will take a different kind of final this term. Instead of sitting in a classroom taking a written test, the class will go to Longfellow Elementary School in Waterloo.

Wartburg and Longfellow have been working together to provide students with a broader base of learning as a part of the Partners in Education program. Mike Allen, Longfellow principal, has been on campus to talk to Wartburg students

about education and urban schools.

The class will spend about two hours in the school. Two or three Wartburg students will be put in selected Longfellow classrooms to observe the teachers and children.

The purpose is for the college students to identify behaviors and ideas discussed in class. The students will be looking for teaching models and discipline techniques.

Afterwards, the class will meet at Budlong's home to discuss their observations.

Fine Arts construction continues despite cold

by Dayce Wesenberg

Despite cold temperatures and snow, workers are still busy on the Fine Arts Building.

Plastic tents have been put up in some areas to shield workers from cold weather, said Dr. Ron Matthias, vice president for administration and finance. Windows were added to one section of the building so that the area will be warmer. These windows and the partially completed roof will help keep the area

dry so work can progress inside during winter months.

Earlier in the year, a dirt ramp was put in so that cement trucks could have easy access to the lower level. This ramp has been taken out, and the foundation on the east side is complete.

Work on the new building should be completed by the end of May, according to Matthias. At that time the Music Department will be moved in to allow for work on the present music building.

Stressed out over finals? Pamphlet says take a break

by Dave Kurtz

The outcome of Finals Week can be summed up in one word: stress. With tests and papers due, many students become like rubber bands, stretching too far until they break.

"Stress in College: Stretching the Rubber Band?" is a pamphlet published by the American College Health Association and distributed by Wartburg's Health and Wellness Center that deals with this problem. The pamphlet lists many indicators of stress and explains the symptoms. It's specifically geared to college students and the type of stress they face, said Randi Ellefson, director of health services.

"Many students come in [to the Health

and Wellness Center] looking for material on stress," said Peer Health Counselor Janelle Ballhagen, junior. "They know they're stressed, but don't know how to deal with it."

Out of the many suggestions of the pamphlet, the best short-term way to handle stress is to take breaks, while the best long-term way is proper planning of schedules, said Ballhagen.

"Getting enough sleep is also important," she added.

Although some stress is good, the pamphlet says that "negative, excessive stress may be a key element in half of all illnesses, ranging from the common cold to heart disease."

The Trumpet wishes everyone a merry Christmas. The next Trumpet will be January 14.

Five matmen crowned

Wrestlers capture title at Coe

by Kevin Studer

The Knight wrestling team had a successful week of competition, placing first at the Coe Quadrangular Wednesday and third at the Dick Walker Knights Invitational Saturday.

Wartburg placed first at Coe with 83 1/4 points. Defending champion Cornell finished second with 74 1/4, Luther placed third with 56 1/4 points and Coe was fourth, compiling 22 1/2 points.

"We had a real team effort at Coe," Head Coach Bob Siddens said. "Everyone wrestled well."

The Knights had five wrestlers crowned champions: freshman Tom Hogan at 150 lbs., junior Mike Crawford at 167 lbs., sophomore Lyndon Van Raden at 177 lbs., freshman Jon Dawley at 190 lbs. and senior Jerad Kruse at Hwt.

Knights finish third

Wartburg placed nine wrestlers and crowned three champions in the 13 team Dick Walker Knights Invitational.

Simpson garnered first place with 141 1/2 points. Buena Vista placed second with 123 1/4 points, Wartburg finished third with 122 points and Augustana placed fourth with 105 points.

"Simpson is a real physical team," Siddens said. "I think they will be the team to beat in the conference along with Buena Vista."

Just prior to the finals there was a brief dedication and naming ceremony of the wrestling room in memory of the late Dick Walker, Wartburg's wrestling coach for 22 years.

At 134 lbs., freshmen Darin Gaede placed fifth, defeating BV's Jeff Lundberg with a 10-6 decision. Freshman Tony Norton placed sixth, losing to BV's Ray Mather at 142 lbs. Hogan finished second, losing to Simpson's Travis Young at 150 lbs. Sophomore Lance Christenson placed

second, losing to Simpson's Gary Ridout at 158 lbs. Crawford finished third, defeating Westmar's Mark Schwan 4-1 at 167 lbs.

"Lance Christensen wrestled very well but got caught in a bad position," Siddens said. "I felt for Mike Crawford. He was the aggressor but lost in the final seconds."

At 177 lbs., Van Raden was crowned champion, defeating Augustana's Matt Brooke 3-2. Dawley placed first, beating Wisconsin-River Falls' Dan Johnson at 190 lbs. Freshman Jeremy Kennebeck finished sixth, losing in overtime to Westmar's Keith Slika at 220 lbs. Kruse was the champion at Hwt., beating Upper Iowa's Bob Goeller 2-1.

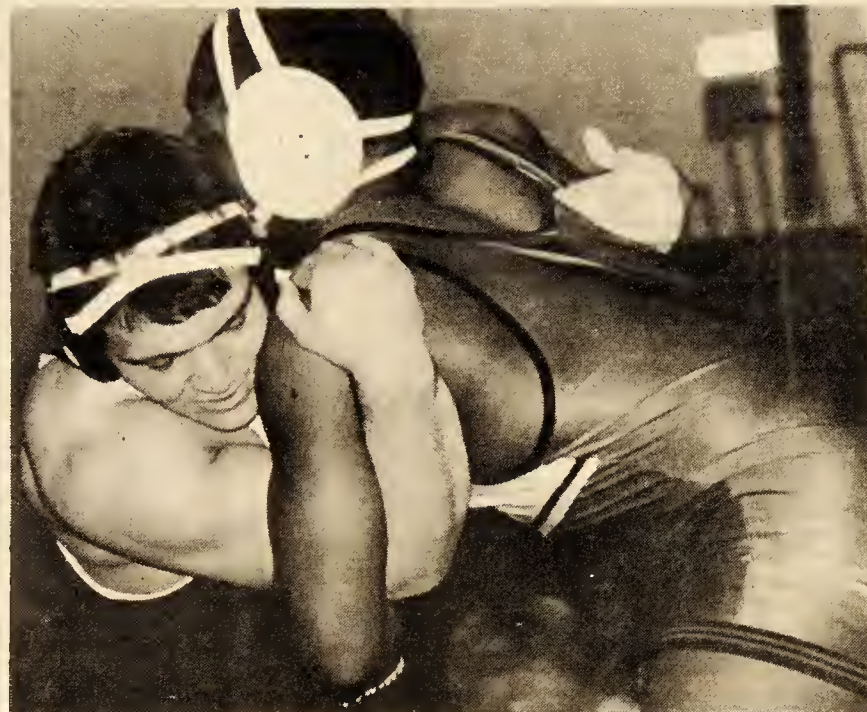
"Jerad Kruse wrestled very smart and beat a guy he had lost to before," Siddens said. "Our upper weights are very strong, and the team is getting better and better."

The team will rest over Christmas break and open competition in 1991 Jan. 5 at the St. Olaf Quadrangular. The team will face Augustana in a dual meet Jan. 8 and then Coe Jan. 9.

Saturday's Results

Simpson	141.5
BV	123.25
WARTBURG	122
Augustana	105
Westmar	67.5
Cornell	58.75
UW-River Falls	54
Upper Iowa	42.5
St. Olaf	26.5
UW-Platteville	23
Coe	18.75
Carleton	9.5
William Penn	3

MVP- Travis Young-150 Simpson



PUSH! Freshman Jon Dawley leans into his opponent trying to work him to the mat during the Dick Walker Knights Invitational. Dawley captured the crown in the 190 lbs. weight class.

Three grididders earn All-District honors

Three Wartburg seniors have been named to the GTE CoSIDA Academic All-District 7 football first team.

They are free safety Kyle Kreinbring, tight end Chris Boerm, and offensive guard Jerrod Staak.

This is the second consecutive year that Kreinbring has been named to the All-District team. All three will now be put on the national ballot for Academic All-American honors.

In order to be eligible for consideration for the All-District team, athletes must be starters or important reserves and carry at least a 3.2 cumulative grade point average for their entire collegiate career. Candidates must also have at least sophomore academic status.

This season, Kreinbring led the 9-1 Knights in tackles with 83, 56 solos and

two for losses, had seven interceptions for 100 yards, which gives him a school record 20 for his career.

He is a biology major with a 3.68 cumulative grade point average.

Boerm was used primarily as a blocker in Wartburg's run-oriented offense, but he still managed seven receptions for 152 yards and one touchdown.

He is a business administration major with an emphasis in finance and management and has a cumulative grade point of 3.76.

Staak was part of the offensive line that let Wartburg set school records in rushing with 2,675 yards and in total offense with 3,941.

His majors are mathematics and mathematics education, and has a 3.92 GPA.

Lady Knights win big over Loras

The Wartburg women's basketball team split two home games this past week, losing to Mt. Mercy 78-63 and beating Loras 83-61.

On Thursday, the Lady Knights started off well, staying with Mt. Mercy through most of the first half. But with seven minutes left, the Eagles got hot, going on a 23-6 run to take a 39-24 lead at the half.

In the second half, Wartburg tried to make a game of it, but could get no closer than nine points.

Sophomore Kathy Roberts led the Lady Knights with 16 points and six rebounds. Senior Lisa Uhlenhopp dropped in 12 points and had nine rebounds. Junior Melanie Miller finished with ten points and sophomore Carrie Petersen added nine points.

Roberts has big game

In Friday's game the Lady Knights were looking to get back on the track against the DuHawks from Loras.

Thursday's game**WARTBURG (63)**

Roberts 5-15 6-8 16, Petersen 4-8 1-1 9, Uhlenhopp 6-10 0-2 12, Miller 5-7 0-2 10, Doll 2-6 0-2 4, Bromley 1-3 0-0 2, Bowman 1-1 0-0 2, Berkland 4-8 0-0 8. Totals 28-58 7-15 63.

Mt. Mercy (78)

Bragg 5-8 1-2 13, Holmes 4-9 0-1 9, Chedester 6-8 2-2 14, Kilburg 4-9 0-2 8, Steffen 1-5 5-5 7, Benesche 11-18 0-0 22, House 2-4 0-0 5. Totals 33-64 8-12 78.

Both teams came out of the locker room shooting well, matching points for the first eight minutes of play.

Then the Lady Knights offense got on a roll, outscoring the DuHawks 32-18 to take a 42-28 lead into the locker room.

In the second half, Loras tried to make it close, but the Wartburg offense was too much. The Knights' defense shined once again as they forced the Eagles into committing 30 turnovers.

Roberts led the Knights' offense dropping in 22 points and adding 11 rebounds. Sophomore Stacy Bromly finished with 14 points. Senior Delaina Doll chipped in with 13 points and four steals.

The Lady Knights record now stand at 7-2 on the year.

Wartburg is on the road this week as they travel to Pella to take on Central on Dec. 15. The game will begin at 6 p.m.

Friday's game**WARTBURG (83)**

Roberts 7-15 8-11 22, Petersen 5-16 1-2 11, Uhlenhopp 5-11 1-2 11, Miller 4-6 0-0 8, Doll 5-13 3-4 13, Bromley 7-9 0-0 14, Berkland 1-2 2-4. Totals 34-76 15-21 83.

Loras (61)

Harvey 1-9 2-4 4, Cayro 15-25 0-0 30, Geers 3-5 1-2 7, Fleege 1-3 4-4 6, Edmonds 4-7 0-0 8, Shock 2-5 0-0 4, Francois 1-5 0-1 2. Totals 27-67 7-11 61.

INTRAMURAL VOLLEYBALL**Men's results****LEAGUE A**

Schmidt/Cornils*	9-0
Martineti's Henchmen	7-2
Ottersberg	7-2
Clinton Ground South	4-5
Spike and the Netters	4-5
All the King's Men	2-7
Hebron III	0-9

LEAGUE B

Off-Campus	9-0
Lanceroos	7-2
Swensen	6-3
Hebron II	5-4
Good People	4-5
Doug Buchholz	3-6
Hebron Ground	3-6

*Schmidt/Cornils defeated Off-Campus in a playoff to win the title

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Kelly named conference MVP

One team and two school records were set as first-year coach Robin Baker saw her volleyball team post its fifth consecutive 20 win season this fall.

The team record was most setting aces in a season, 1,038, and the two individual records were posted by Kim Kelly, senior, most attack aces (kills) in a season, 323, and most attack attempts in a season, 781.

Kelly's performance this season earned her Most Valuable Player accolades in the Iowa Conference. She also was a first team All-IAC selection, while setter Tina Cook, junior was a second team pick. The Knights finished fourth in the IAC with 11.5 points, based on a point formula that includes a postseason tournament as well as regular season standings. In all matches played, Wartburg was 20-13.

In addition to her school record performances, Kelly also led the Knights in solo blocks with 49, block assists with 67 and digs 51. Cook had the top attack percentage, .255, among the regulars and the most assists with 493. Sophomore Laurs Berkeland led the team in most service aces with 52, four more than Kelly.

Individual and Team Statistics

Name	MP	GP	K	E	TA	AKT %
Tina Cook	33	103	134	31	404	.255
Sue Chapman	33	102	150	35	517	.222
Nicole Gordon	6	6	5	2	17	.176
Laura Berkeland	33	98	177	57	575	.209
Molly Thoren	33	102	197	81	553	.210
Brenda Lowry	33	102	132	81	552	.092
Katie Welden	29	94	4	1	18	.167
Melanie Miller	12	14	8	2	19	.316
Kim Kelly	33	103	323	125	781	.254
Barb Davis	21	42	0	0	1	.000
Heidi Thiner	18	27	19	7	61	.197
Team Totals	37	114	1149	422	3498	.208

Name	A	TA	SA	BS	BA	DG
Cook	493	1568	35	8	20	108
Chapman	30	121	15	20	28	109
Gordon	0	1	2	0	0	6
Berkeland	31	106	52	3	27	103
Thoren	8	20	0	11	32	49
Lowry	40	113	12	2	19	113
Welden	345	1149	28	0	0	71
Miller	1	14	5	0	1	9
Kelly	41	158	48	49	67	151
Davis	3	9	12	0	0	11
Thiner	44	123	3	0	4	20
Team Totals	1038	3386	212	93	198	750

MP = matches played
GP = games played
K = kills
E = errors
TA = total attempts
ATK% = attack percentage

A = assists
TA = total attempts
SA = service aces
BS = block solos
BA = block assists
DG = digs

Record goes to 8-1

Knights win big over N'western, Loras

by Lance Holub

The Wartburg men's basketball team picked up two impressive wins this week as they beat Northwestern 91-51 and Loras 94-63.

On Tuesday, the Knights relied on streak shooting to build up an early lead. In the first half, the Knights used two, 10-0 runs to pull away from Northwestern.

Senior, Mark Olenius had the hot hand for Wartburg in the first half as he dropped in ten points to pace the Knights' offense.

The Knights went into the locker room with a 39-20 lead.

The Northwestern offense kept pace with the Knights, exchanging baskets through the first ten minutes of the second half.

The Knights' offense then went on a scoring spree. With seven minutes left in the game, Wartburg went on a 20-2 run to put the game out of reach. During the stretch, eight Knights made it into the scoring column.

Olenius led the Knights with 20 points and seven rebounds. Senior Dan Nettleton finished the game with 16 points and seven rebounds. Jeff Panek and Todd Reinhardt added 11 and ten points respectively.

Tuesday's game

WARTBURG (91)

Olenius 8-17 4-4 20, Haupt 2-8 0-0 4, Nettleton 5-8 6-6 16, Reinhardt 2-10 6-6 10, Panek 3-5 5-6 11, Leary 2-5 3-4 7, Hall 1-5 2-2 4, Watson 1-4 0-0 2, Horstmann 3-6 0-0 9, Denly 0-2 1-2 1, Eben 3-4 1-2 7. Totals 30-78 28-32 91.

Northwestern (51)

Fitzgerald 9-19 0-0 23, Brandt 2-9 0-0 4, Anderson 1-5 1-2 3, Fjelstad 6-9 0-0 13, Schwitters 2-3 0-0 5, Sommerfeld 1-4 0-0 3. Totals 21-59 1-2 51.

Knights win big

The Knights had little trouble Thursday night, as they defeated the DuHawks from Loras 94-63 in the Knights Gymnasium.

The DuHawks jumped to an early lead as Tom Mulcrone hit from outside to take a 3-0 lead, but the lead would not last long as Wartburg got hot.

Olenius scored ten points as the Knights went on a 28 to 11 run to take a 28-14 lead midway through the first period.

Loras worked their way back, getting as close as seven points, before the Knights scored 12 straight points to go into the locker room with a 49-33 lead.

As the second half started, it was Reinhardt who had the hot hand. Reinhardt scored the Knights first eight points, including two three pointers to increase Wartburg's lead to 60-38.

The Knights kept the pressure on Loras, outscoring the DuHawks 13 to 3 to put the game out of reach.

Olenius led the Knights, dropping in 24 points and grabbing 12 rebounds. Reinhardt finished with 23 points. Junior Lance Haupt added 18 points and Nettleton had 14 points.

The men's next game is away as they take on the Flying Dutchmen from Central on Jan. 2.

Thursday's game

WARTBURG (94)

Olenius 9-12 3-5 24, Haupt 9-12 0-0 18, Nettleton 6-6 2-2 14, Reinhardt 8-12 3-3 23, Panek 0-2 2-2 2, Leary 1-1 2-2 4, Watson 1-1 0-0 2, Horstmann 2-3 0-0 5, Stulken 1-1 0-0 2. Totals 37-50 12-14 94.

Loras (63)

Mulcrone 5-8 0-0 12, Snelson 2-7 0-0 4, Heilers 2-8 0-1 4, Jans 6-18 1-1 18, Schermerhorn 1-7 0-0 2, Ortiz 2-4 0-0 5, Tinch 1-4 0-0 2, Harris 3-6 0-3 6, Carter 4-10 2-5 10. Totals 26-76 3-10 63.

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Florida State vs. Penn State
Oregon vs. Colorado State
Brigham Young vs. Texas A.M.
Indiana vs. Auburn
California vs. Wyoming
Michigan State vs. USC
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M-F 8-5:30
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Sat 8-1

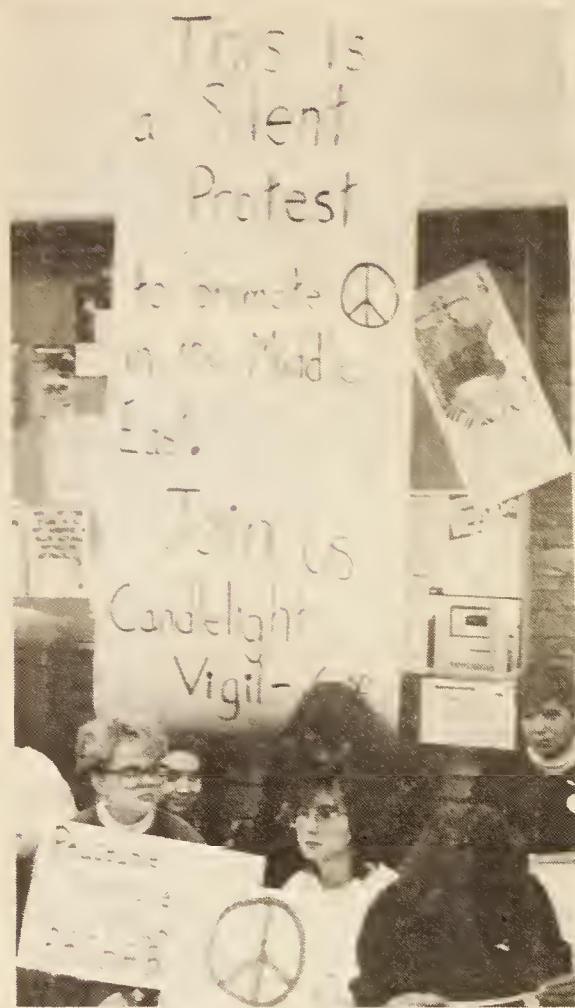


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Sit-in raises awareness, calls for peace in Gulf

by Jill Lafferty

About 200 students and faculty participated in a silent sit-in and candlelight vigil for peace Wednesday evening outside the cafeteria.

"The faculty and students responded tremendously, taking time out of their schedules to show how much they care about this issue," said senior Maren Mapp, organizer.

Wearing yellow ribbons to symbolize hope, participants began gathering outside the mail room of the Student Union around 5 p.m. After sitting silently for an hour and a half, the group lit candles and sang "Kum-bayah." Dr. Herman Diers, professor of religion, led the group in prayer.

A banner hung outside the Union declared "How many more before we go to war," a reference to the 48 soldiers already killed in accidents in the Persian Gulf. In memory of these soldiers, 48 crosses were placed

outside the Union.

Organizers of the sit-in said they would add to the crosses as more deaths occur.

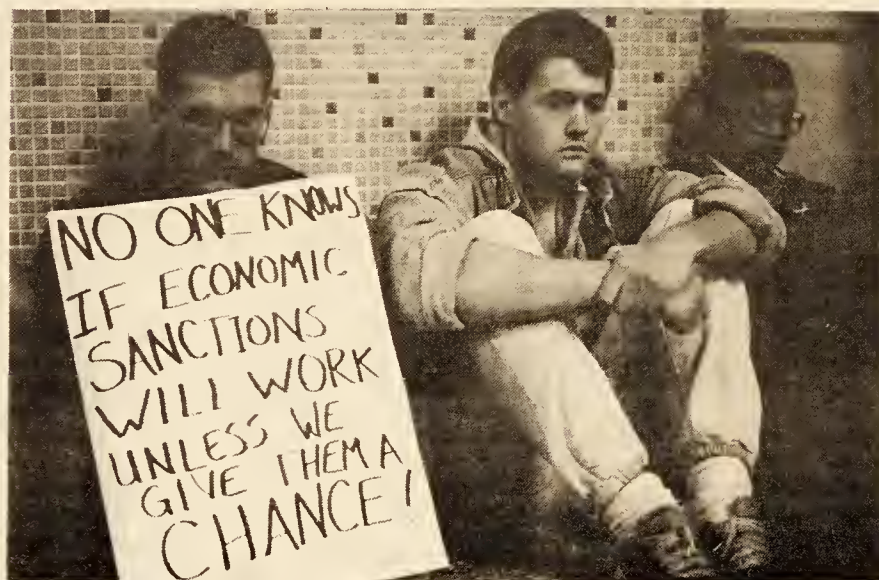
"The focus [of the sit-in] was to create a support system for those with family and friends in the Persian Gulf and to promote peace," said Mapp.

Another goal was to raise awareness.

"When people participate in events like this, it deepens their commitment to the issue," Mapp said. "We hope they will take the initiative to write to their congressmen."

Organizers were Mapp, seniors Kathy Azbell, Jessica Schmidt, Christie Mase and Jill Smith and junior Andy Maik.

The organizers said the silent sit-in was much more effective than having people running around with banners, noting that non-participants entering the cafeteria were silent as well.



SIGNS FOR PEACE— Candles, crosses, banners and somber faces marked Wednesday's vigil. Organizers hoped to raise awareness and promote a peaceful resolution to the conflict in the Persian Gulf. Photos by Jon Reuss.

Campus divides over U.S. troop buildup

by Brenda Thompson
editor

The following column was written during Wednesday's peace vigil.

Dear Peaches,

I don't know if writing this is breaking my vow of silence, but I think I'll chance it. It's so hard for me to explain this to you, you with the peach-fuzz haircut drilling daily, patrolling the gulf, defending a foreign desert. We do not protest against you, but for you, for us all. We speak for a peaceful resolution, for a just government. We speak so that we all live and die for more than oil buried in the desert.

At Thanksgiving, Grandma read some of my columns aloud, columns where I questioned values, ethics and the possibility of war. I heard a disgusted "College students never change" in response. I have to laugh when President Bush says this will not be another Vietnam. It already is. Vietnam divided the country. The Gulf has already divided our family.

As I sit here, I see a campus divided, too. No, I'm not offended by the students who march through our

gathering cheering, "Let's go to war!" or making some wisecrack about pulling out an M-16 from the mailbox. They will either grow up, or go through the entire crisis basically ignorant of the issues. I do, however, worry about the people who walk through quickly, quietly only to say with frustration, "Why don't people protest for the war?" or "What do they want us to do, just sit on our butts?" The pain, the conflict, the division is genuine and it hurts us all.

There are 48 crosses up in the snow representing the Americans who have already died in the gulf. The snow never ceases to remind me of you. A big, burly Florida-born Navy cadet who took so much joy in making his first snowman or sledding down the hill. From your desert post maybe it's hard to remember the time you tried to ice skate though the skates didn't fit quite right; you found the hard way that ice is both cold and hard!

You have always taken care of me, pulling me around in a toy wagon that summer I burned my foot, looking for my dog lost in the cornfield, even that mercy date to the Homecoming dance my senior year in high school. I know your service now is a continuation of that caring.

How can I aptly explain that it is with love and affection for you that I sit on this cold floor now? That we do not protest against the men and women doing their duty in the Gulf, but against the powers that be which sent them there. But we are doing our duty, too. The Vietnam slogan, "Love it or leave it" will not suffice this time. We love it, but dare to question it. Our duty is to speak for a peaceful resolution, a peaceful precedent, a world where military might is not the answer to every conflict.

'The pain, the conflict, the division is genuine and it hurts us all.'

I hope you understand. Take care of yourself, cousin. You are in our thoughts and prayers each day, especially at Christmas.

P.S. I'll send cookies!

With Love,